

This I Believe: Dreams

We all have our own dreams, no matter what it is. But not all of us have faith in achieving it. We turn our backs and walk away, thinking it will never come true. Some people do not believe in dreams.

But *I* believe in dreams.

Martin Luther King, Jr., had a dream. *"I have a dream that one day this nation will rise up and live out the true meaning of its creed: 'We hold these truths to be self-evident: that all men are created equal.'"* His belief in his dream not only transformed the lives of the ostracized blacks in America in his day, it changed the entire prospect of America ever since. He believed, and he made a difference.

People find it ridiculous how I can believe so strongly on seemingly no solid grounds. My belief is not based purely on optimism. I believe because it is worth it – I believe because I want to live life to the best I can. I dream because I want to dare to venture beyond what I think I am capable of.

I used to think that I wasn't good enough, in both the academic aspect and as a person overall. My brother is someone who is really a role model for me. His studies are good, he's a great person to be around with, and the way he pushes himself towards achieving his dreams is really admirable. As his younger sister, I felt like I was always going to be in his shadow. I dreamed of becoming someone at least on par, if not better, than him but I always gave that up pretty quickly every time I saw how accomplished he was, even if he was only four years older than me. I hated how my mother would compare me with him.

Ironically, however, it was my brother himself who opened up my eyes. I think he could tell I got really annoyed whenever my mother made comparisons, even if I did not show it. He sat down with me to talk about it one day, telling me how I have to believe in myself, how I *can* make my dream a reality. He had complete faith that I would beat him someday. His words inspired me to believe, and since then, I have tried my best in everything I do. Though I could not see it myself then, I really grew from it. Instead of simply striving to outdo him, I switched my focus to becoming a better person myself.

I will continue to believe in this dream, because it is my source of motivation, a driving force that pushes me to my limits. I believe dreams lead people to become the best they can be. I believe dreams can make me into someone I never imagined I could be.

Dream big, and believe. I won't be hindered by the hard work involved on the journey to get there. I'd push on, pursue further, and keep dreaming.

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